



## Medical-psychiatric units: shared care in mental health

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Résumé en anglais	<p>This paper describes a highly unusual hospital unit that combines somatic and psychiatric approaches under the generic heading of a Medico-Psycho-Social Unit (MPSU) established at Angers University Hospital since 1996. The paper examines the value of a mixed approach while highlighting its limitations. The interest of the MPSU is that it provides a multidisciplinary, somatic and psychiatric approach on the same site. The joint expertise of medical and paramedical staff is required in cases where the assessment of the consultation-liaison services is not sufficient and in complex situations requiring the resources of an intensive care unit and specific medical and surgical specialties. Based on an established partnership and joint service provision, this type of unit is relatively uncommon both in France and abroad. However, the prevalence of somatic and organic comorbidity suggests that MPSUs are an innovative solution for the challenges of this type of care. Two clinical cases will be used as examples.</p>
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